

REMARKS

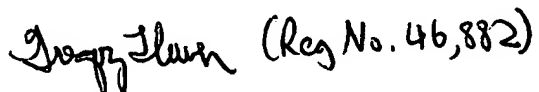
Status of the Claims

Claims 32 and 33 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and with the understanding that Applicants may pursue the subject matter encompassed by these cancelled claims in a continuation application. The remaining claims, 24-31 and 34-36, have been clarified as allowed by a panel decision from a Pre-Appeal Brief review, a copy of the notice of which is attached for the Examiner's review. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the cancellation of claims 32 and 33 and notification of the allowance of claims 24-31 and 34-36.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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